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action, strategical and tactical, good and bad. Referring only to the good, we find few better than Fitz-Hugh Lee's reconnaissance to Hartwood Church, W. E. Jones's operations with 2000 cavalry against the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, guarded by 34,000 men present for duty, Harrison with thirty men at Fleming's Cross Roads, McVickar at Alsop's Farm. Perhaps the author is rather hard on Lieutenant-Colonel John S. Mosby in his discussion of that officer's military status. Mosby had enthusiastic approval of such high-toned soldiers as Lee and Stuart, not to speak of U. S. Grant and his opponent in Loudoun County, General Charles Russell Lowell, who wrote to his wife, "Mosby is an honorable foe and should be treated as such." The cavalry actions at Miskell's Farm, Thompson's Corner, Aldie, Dranesville, Herndon Station, as described in this book, had no characteristic of guerrilla action and might serve to-day to teach a lesson to cavalry.

The greatest fault in military historical works written in this country is the worthless maps. The author has helped us greatly by his forty-seven maps, sketches, and plans in colors, showing the positions of troops at successive stages of operations described. It is suggested that, as the woods exert such an influence on every phase of the conflict, an additional color to show wooded areas would have greatly improved the general value of the work. EBEN SWIFT.

Reconstruction in Texas. By CHARLES WILLIAM RAMSDELL, Ph.D. [Columbia University Studies in History, Economics, and Public Law, vol. XXXVI., no. 1.] (New York: Longmans, Green, and Company. 1910. Pp. 324.)

THE last few years have brought forth numerous studies in the Reconstruction period of our history. Among these, hardly is there a better than that of Professor Ramsdell's *Reconstruction in Texas*. Dr. Ramsdell has had unusual advantages in the matter of access to original sources. He had at his service the Executive Correspondence of the state, which included a large number of letters from governors in their official capacity; its Reconstruction Correspondence, which embodied a great many letters from army officers and from the Freedmen's Bureau; its Executive Records, which contained proclamations and letters from other departments of the government, including the letter-book of the secretary of state; the Johnson Papers in the Library of Congress; and the Roberts Papers. Besides these sources he availed himself of the files of practically all the newspapers published contemporaneously in the state. He also had access to certain books and periodicals, public documents and pamphlets, not usually available.

Dr. Ramsdell leads up to his work with true insight by dealing with conditions in the state prior to the outbreak of the war, and emphasizes the unique position held by Texas throughout the bitter struggle; certain distinct problems were presented in her reconstruction, which were not common in other of the Confederate States. He shows that on ac-

count of the fact that the negro population was not so large as in some of the other states and was concentrated in the eastern part, the influence of the Freedmen's Bureau was much diminished; and further, that the situation was complicated because of hostile Indians, lack of railway transportation, etc.

Special attention has been given to the relations of the state officials and military commanders, and the writer has shown Sheridan's shortcomings in unmincing words. From 1867 he has given his attention largely to political matters, making particularly clear the struggle between the Radicals or Republicans, and the split into the Jack Hamilton and Davis factions. He has carefully shown the reasons for the final overthrow of the Davis government, after the readmission of the state.

There is a palpable lack of economical and social discussion in the book, which, Dr. Ramsdell himself explains, came about through failure to find such material. It might be said in extenuation that such information is extremely difficult to discover. Again, the economic history of the period is less complicated than in most of the other Southern States on account of the fact that there were no confiscated plantations, fewer negroes, fewer carpet-baggers, and the Radicals themselves were mostly Texans.

Professor Ramsdell has indicated pointedly the great service rendered by Throckmorton, and we are glad this patriotic Texan is thus honored. He has dealt in a searching and judicious way with his characters, being extremely temperate in his expressions. The style of his writing is agreeable. Here and there, it is barely possible that condensations might have been made to advantage. On the whole the work is a valuable addition to our studies in general of Reconstruction.

W. F. McCALEB.

A History of California Labor Legislation. With an Introductory Sketch of the San Francisco Labor Movement. By LUCILE EAVES, Associate Professor of Practical Sociology at the University of Nebraska. (Berkeley: University Press. 1910. Pp. xiv, 461.)

THIS elaborate monograph is a sane and scholarly discussion of the many-sided problem whose right solution more and more urgently challenges the earnest effort of the American people. It is a model piece of scientific work. It displays an insight and a breadth of treatment which attest the unique equipment of Dr. Eaves for the performance of her difficult task. To it she brings not merely the skill of the expert in history and economics, but also the sympathy and the intimacy of knowledge which could come only from her eight years of social service leadership in San Francisco. Hence the labor legislation in California is treated as a part of the whole movement of organized labor in the United States. True, the conditions of labor in California in some respects have always been unique, and hence its history is singularly dra-